

September 2021

Chair of Governors Annual Reports to Parents and Carers

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the start of this new academic year, I am writing to update you on the 20/21 year at our school.

What a year it was! Governors and the Senior Leadership Team worked hard throughout the year to ensure that the best education possible was provided for our children. Given the circumstances and seemingly endless Government guidance this was no mean feat for all involved. We had been hoping for a year free of Covid 19 restrictions. Sadly, this proved to be too optimistic, and we found ourselves looking at detailed planning for keeping the school open for the children of key workers and vulnerable children, for providing remote education and then for fully reopening the school and putting in place the bubbles and other safety measures to ensure the safety and well being of everyone.

I am very proud and grateful for the effort and commitment shown by Mrs Peasgood, all Staff members and Governors during this very challenging period.

I am also very aware of the burden that you as parents and carers have faced in this most unusual of years and would like to thank you all for your support, hard work and understanding.

On the reopening of school in the Spring, the focus was to ensure that as much support as possible was provided to address lost learning during the school closure. In conjunction with this, Governors have been proactive within their link roles, particularly monitoring educational outcomes.

Despite the pandemic we have also continued with all our statutory duties. All normal Governing Body and Committee meetings have been held, albeit remotely. In addition, we have had several extraordinary meetings focussed on arrangements for dealing with the pandemic. Finances have been monitored throughout the year and we ended the year in a positive financial position. Governors have also continued to undertake all appropriate and relevant training to ensure that they are able to fully carry out their roles of

challenge, scrutiny, and support. Disappointingly we were unable to visit school as we normally would nor take part in any additional visits such as Assemblies, Forest School etc. We are looking forward to getting involved in this way now things are closer to being normal.

Lastly, we ended the year with the much-anticipated Ofsted Inspection. I am delighted that we retained our Good rating. If you have not already done so I encourage you to read the full report which is on the school website. I am sure you will agree that there is so much to be proud of in this report.

In the coming year the Governing Body will continue to focus on helping to deliver the School Development Plan, keep safeguarding as a priority, continue to develop and embrace the Christian ethos of the school and ensure that our financial position remains healthy.

It has been my pleasure to Chair the Governing Body for the last two years, but due to family and work commitments I will be retiring from the Board and Dr Birgit Smith will be taking over from September 2021. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone in Team Nutley – the Staff, Governors, everyone in the school community and most importantly the delightful children.

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents and carers so if you want to get in touch, please contact the school office or email the Chair of Governors bsmith@nutleyce.e-sussex.sch.uk

With best wishes

Hilary Randall
Chair of Governors 20/21